

## BOOK REVIEW

TRACY DISABATO-AUST. 2008. **50 High-Impact, Low-Care Garden Plants: Tough-but-Beautiful Plants Anyone Can Grow.** (ISBN 978-0-881-92950-8, pbk.). Timber Press Inc., The Haseltine Building, 133 S.W. Second Avenue, Suite 450, Portland, Oregon 97204-3527, U.S.A. (**Orders:** orders@timberpress.com, 1-800-827-5622). \$16.95, 168 pp., 135 color photos, 7 ½" × 9".

Many people are finding modern life busy and hectic, leaving little time for hobbies such as gardening. As a result, busy gardeners are searching for fast-growing, easy-to-care-for plants. Author Tracy Disabato-Aust with her book, *50 High-Impact, Low-Care Garden Plants: Tough-but-Beautiful Plants Anyone Can Grow*, offers some helpful recommendations. There is a small section written for each plant. On the side of each section are notes on the basic information of the plant such as hardiness, height, spread, and light needs. Disabato-Aust follows each section with her low-maintenance checklist:

- Long-lived
- Tolerates heat and humidity
- Cold-hardy
- Deer-resistant
- Insect and disease resistant
- Minimal or no deadheading
- Minimal or no fertilizing
- No staking
- Minimal or no division
- Minimal or no pruning
- Non-invasive
- Drought-tolerant

This is a great book for novice gardeners or homeowners who wish to beautify their home with care-free plants. The only drawback is that the author chooses many plants suited to a Midwest climate since she lives in Ohio. However, those in other climates will still find some very suitable choices.—*Elaine Diaz, BRIT volunteer, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 500 E 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76106-4025, U.S.A.*